

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/510,407  
Reply to Office Action dated January 30, 2008

**Remarks:**

Applicants have read and considered the Office Action dated January 30, 2008. Claims 8-17 have been withdrawn. Claims 1-7 are currently pending.

In the Office Action, a Restriction Requirement was placed upon the Application. The Office Action indicated that the application included three groups, namely:

Group I – claims 1-7, drawn to a functionalizable polymer;

Group II – claims 8-12, drawn to a process for preparing a functionalizable polymer; and

Group III – claims 13-16, drawn to a grafted functionalized polymer.

The Office Action indicated that the groups do not relate to a single inventive concept because they lack the same or corresponding special technical features and require different searches. Applicants hereby election Group I, claims 1-7, drawn to a functionalizable polymer. Applicants make the election without traverse. Applicants assert that at least claims 1-7 read on the elected group. Claims 8-17 have been withdrawn.

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Applicants assert that the claims are in condition for allowance. A speedy and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is hereby solicited. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview may be helpful in this matter, please contact Applicant's representative at (612) 336-4728.



Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

3/31/08

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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